City of San Diego Office of the Independent Budget Analyst

MONTHLY SNAPSHOT OF REPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

Highlights of Major Reports Issued in the Month of September:

Report No. 10-69, attachment "Proposed Changes to Budget Policy Regarding Budget Monitoring Process"

At the City Council meeting of June 14, 2010, the City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget, and directed that the City's Budget Policy be amended to incorporate changes to the Budget Monitoring process, as recommended by the IBA. These changes were prompted by the delayed recommendations provided to the City Council to address the FY 2010 General Fund budgetary shortfall, which negatively impacted the City Council's ability to make final decisions necessary to adopt the FY 2011 budget in time to meet Charter-required deadlines.

This report proposed changes to the Budget Policy to incorporate timing improvements to the Budget Monitoring process to prevent these complications from being repeated in the future.

The Budget and Finance Committee voted 4-0 to forward the proposed changes to the Budget Policy to the full City Council for consideration with amendments.

Reports Highlighted for the Month of September 2010:

"Proposed Changes to Budget Policy Regarding Budget Monitoring Process"

Report No. 10-69 (9/9/10) Attachment

"Status of City's Performance Measurement Program" Report No. 10-70 (9/9/10)

"Adoption of a Home Energy Retrofit Policy Resolution"
Report 10-71 (9/10/10)

"Proposed Minimum Staffing for Fire Engines and Fire Trucks Council Policy" Report No. 10-76 (9/24/10)

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Report No. 10-70 "Status of City's Performance Measurement Program"

At the Budget and Finance Committee meeting of June 23, 2010, the IBA recommended the discontinuation of the annual Statement of Budgetary Principles and suggested possible changes to the City's Budget Policy in its place. The IBA proposed to develop possible amendments to the City's Budget Policy to address any issues that were intended to be covered by the Principles which may have not yet been incorporated into the City's Budget Policy, including Council notification of Mayoral budgetary reductions, and a more robust implementation of performance measures.

At that time, the Committee requested the IBA work with the Mayor's Office and return to the Committee with an update on performance measures in September 2010. Councilmember DeMaio requested the IBA come back with four to five key measures from departments to determine their current status. Chair Young requested a draft proposal to augment the Budget Policy. Councilmember Emerald requested the IBA create a time table to track progress.

This report provided an update regarding the status of the City's Performance Measurement Program, and discussed future changes under development related to performance measures and reporting. However, we did not yet recommend language changes to the Budget Policy regarding performance measures. Alternatively, this report outlined a proposal agreed to by the Mayor to incorporate Interim Budget Measures into the upcoming Fiscal Year 2012 budget process.

(continued on page 2)

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The Budget Committee requested that the Office of the Mayor and the Independent Budget Analyst bring a discussion on a Performance Measure Ordinance to become effective for the Fiscal Year 2013 budget process at a future Budget and Finance Committee Meeting and at a future City Council Meeting.

Report 10-71 "Adoption of a Home Energy Retrofit Policy Resolution"

On September 13, 2010, Item 150, "Adoption of a Home Energy Retrofit Policy Resolution," was presented to City Council for consideration. Council was asked to adopt a resolution which would establish policy goals for home energy retrofit programs within the City.

At the May 12, 2010 Natural Resources and Culture Committee (NR&C) meeting, the Environmental Health Coalition (EHC) presented a draft resolution for a home energy retrofit policy. NR&C forwarded the item to the full Council with requests for additional work. One of the items requested was that the IBA explore other cities' endeavors related to home energy retrofits, as well as applicable state and federal policies. This report addressed that request.

The resolution presented to Council was general in nature when compared to energy retrofit policies of other local governments. Accordingly, the information in this report presented issues Council could consider with regard to the adoption of a home energy retrofit policy.

Additionally, the policy goals in the resolution were not presented as a formal Council Policy, because the resolution was more broad-based, reaching other entities and agencies in addition to the City. Within the City, staff can use the resolution to tailor programs or projects brought forward to City Council. It is unclear at this time how the resolution will be effectively implemented outside the City.

The resolution was passed by the City Council by a vote of 7-0 (with one councilmember absent). Also, the following was included as part of the motion: policy goals of the program be included in the Request For Proposal, audits and assessments be required to verify cost efficient energy savings for individuals structures and the program as a whole, and encourage training opportunities and contractor accessibility for low income communities.

Report No. 10-76 "Proposed Minimum Staffing for Fire Engines and Fire Trucks Council Policy"

On Tuesday, September 28, 2010, the City Council was asked to approve Council Policy 500-09, "Minimum Staffing for Fire Engines and Fire Trucks". As proposed, this Council Policy will communicate the City Council's desire and intent to maintain four-member crew staffing for City fire engines and trucks.

Although there have been no proposals from the Mayor's Office regarding a reduction of current Fire-Rescue Department staffing protocol for fire trucks and engines, this issue is being studied within the context of a projected \$72 million General Fund deficit for FY 2012, with recent direction from the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer for departments to submit proposals for budget reductions meeting assigned targets for FY 2012. The Fire-Rescue Department target is \$7.2 million. This is in addition to the \$9.2 million in net reductions taken in the current year. Adopting Council Policy 500-09 would express Council's desire not to consider fire engine or truck staffing reductions as an option for meeting the City's budget reduction goals, and to maintain a minimum of four-person staffing.

The purpose of this report was to review some of the issues that the Council should consider in determining whether to adopt Council Policy 500-09 at this time.

This item was continued and will be

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Other Reports Issued in the Month of September 2010:

Report No. 10-67, attachment (9/3/10), Report 10-67 REV, attachment (9/9/10)

"Response to Grand Jury Report Titled, "Qualcomm Stadium"

Report 10-68, attachment 1, attachment 2, (9/3/2010), Report 10-68 REV, attachment 1 (9/17/10)

"Response to Grand Jury Report Titled, "Medical Marijuana in San Diego"

Report 10-72, attachment 1, attachment 2 (9/17/10) Report 10-72 REV, attachment 1 (9/30/10)

"Response to Grand Jury Report Titled "Efficiency in Government: Managed Competition, Outsourcing, Reengineering and Reverse Auction within San Diego County"

Report 10-73, attachment 1, attachment 2 (9/21/10) Report 10-73 REV, attachment 1 (9/29/10)

"Response to Grand Jury Report Titled "Homeless in San Diego"

Report 10-74 (9/23/10)

"Authorize an Agreement with Action Research for Think Blue Education and Outreach"

Report 10-75 (9/23/10)

"Estimated Savings Associated With Hypothetical Retiree Health Benefit Change"

Report 10-77 (9/24/10)

"Fire-Rescue Wellness Program Agreement"

Report 10-78 (9/24/10)

"Agreement with Burke, Williams and Sorenson, LLP"

Report No. 10-79, attachment (9/30/10)

"Selection of New San Diego Data Processing Corporation Executive Director"